PATENT APPLICATION

Docket Number: 008312-0282732

Client Reference: T4IA-01S0063-1

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In Re the Application of

SAORI NISHIMURA

Application No.: 09/976,050

Filed: October 15, 2001

Commissioner for Patents

Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

P. O. Box 1450

Group Art Unit: 2131

Examiner: UNKNOWN

Confirmation No.: 1678

For: IC CARD TERMINAL UNIT AND IC CARD DUPLICATION METHOD

INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT

RECEIVED

MAY 2 5 2004

Technology Center 2100

Sir:

Pursuant to 37 CFR 1.56, the attention of the Patent and Trademark Office is hereby directed to the reference listed on the attached PTO-1449. Unless otherwise indicated herein, one copy of each reference is attached. It is respectfully requested that the information be expressly considered during the prosecution of this application, and that the reference be made of record therein and appear among the "References Cited" on any patent to issue therefrom. Applicants respectfully request the Examiner return an initialed copy of the enclosed Form PTO-1449 to Applicants with the next Office communication to indicate that the reference has been considered, per MPEP § 609.

This Information Disclosure Statement is being filed (a) within three months of the U.S. filing date of this non-CPA application, OR (b) before the mailing date of the first Office Action on the merits in the present application. No certification or fee is required.

The references were cited in a counterpart foreign application in the attached Japanese Communication (Office Action) issued March 30, 2004, i.e., not more than three months ago. An English language version of the foreign communication is attached for the Examiner's information. Both the Japanese Communication and the English Abstract are relied upon to satisfy the requirement of a statement of relevance for the attached reference.

Respectfully submitted,

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Date: May 21, 2004

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P.O. Box 10500 McLean, VA 22102

Customer Number: 00909

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Approved for use through 06/30/2006. OMB 0651-0031

U.S. Patent and Trademark Office; U.S. DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE

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Substitute for form 1449B/PTO				Complete if Known			
				Application Number	09/976,050		
	RMATION DIS			Filing Date	10/15/2001		
STATEMENT BY APPLICANT				First Named Inventor	SAORI NISHIMURA		
				Art Unit			
(Use as many sheets as necessary)				Examiner Name	UNKNOWN		
Sheet	1	of	1	Attorney Docket Number	008312-0282732		

NON PATENT LITERATURE DOCUMENTS							
Examiner Initials*	Cite No.1	Include name of the author (in CAPITAL LETTERS), title of the article (when appropriate), title of the item (book, magazine, journal, serial, symposium, catalog, etc.), date, page(s), volume-issue number(s), publisher, city and/or country where published.	T²				
	1	Office Action, dated March 30, 2004, from the Japanese Patent Office, for Patent Application No. 2001-046630	х				
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Examiner	Date	
Signature	Considered	

*EXAMINER: Initial if reference considered, whether or not citation is in conformance with MPEP 609. Draw line through citation if not in conformance and not

considered. Include copy of this form with next communication to applicant.

1 Applicant's unique citation designation number (optional). Applicant is to place a check mark here if English language Translation is attached. This collection of information is required by 37 CFR 1.97 and 1.98. The information is required to obtain or retain a benefit by the public which is to file (and by the USPTO to process) an application. Confidentiality is governed by 35 U.S.C. 122 and 37 CFR 1.14. This collection is estimated to take 2 hours to complete, including gathering, preparing, and submitting the completed application form to the USPTO. Time will vary depending upon the individual case. Any comments on the amount of time you require to complete this form and/or suggestions for reducing this burden should be sent to the Chief Information Officer, U.S. Patent and Trademark Office, U.S. Department of Commerce, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450. DO NOT SEND FEES OR COMPLETED FORMS TO THIS ADDRESS. SEND TO: Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450.